

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 1, 2003. Claims 1-18 are pending with claims 1-11 being in independent form. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 6, 7, 11 and 18 to clarify the claimed invention and place the claims in better form for examination. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is introduced by the claim amendments.

Claim 18 was objected to because the word "more" is misspelled "mor".

Claim 18 is amended hereby to correct an obvious typographical error.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 18 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,812,279 to Fukushima et al. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,936,743 to Satoh. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Satoh in view of Fukushima. Claims 3-5 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Satoh and Fukushima in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,476,935 to Fujino. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Satoh as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of Fukushima. Claims 13-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Satoh as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of Fukushima and Fujino.

Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submits that independent claims 1-11

are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

The present application relates to a facsimile monitoring system which includes a facsimile device and a personal computer connected with the facsimile device and including monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of the facsimile.

The monitoring software can have a number of different features which provide a user at the personal computer with prompt notice of a status of the memory transmission without action by the user to select and retrieve information for display. For example, according to independent claims 1 and 6, when a memory transmission by the facsimile is completed, a message of a completion thereof is displayed on a displaying panel of the personal computer immediately thereafter. According to independent claims 2 and 7, when there exists a communication error by the facsimile a message of an alarm is displayed on a displaying panel of the personal computer immediately thereafter.

The monitoring software can also (or alternatively) have other features which provide a user at the personal computer with means, when there exists a file in the facsimile device indicating a communication error, for deleting the file of communication error using the personal computer (independent claim 3) or for changing the address of the communication error file and/or a transmission property thereof from the personal computer (independent claim 4 or 5).

The cited art does not disclose or suggest these features.

Satoh relates to a facsimile control system which includes a terminal remote from a facsimile apparatus for transmitting data to, and receiving data from, the facsimile apparatus. The terminal may include an interface through which the user can select to view reports

generated by the facsimile apparatus.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, Satoh does not disclose, however, that the terminal has monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of the facsimile.

The Office Action states that Fukushima discloses a memory transmission monitoring software. The Office Action alleges that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Satoh and Fukushima.

Fukushima, as understood by Applicant, relates to a facsimile machine having a communication control CPU and an operation panel with a display portion. According to Fukushima, when prompted by an operator of the facsimile machine through the operation panel, a transmission checking routine allows the time when image data, already transmitted and stored in image memory, was transmitted and the number of pages transmitted to be displayed on the display portion of the operation panel.

However, Fukushima is not directed at a facsimile monitoring system which includes a facsimile device and a personal computer connected with the facsimile device, wherein the personal computer includes monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of the facsimile.

Even if the teachings of Fukushima and Satoh are combined, the combination would yield a facsimile system comprising a facsimile machine and a terminal, wherein the facsimile machine has a transmission checking routine, as taught by Fukushima. The combination simply does not disclose or suggest a facsimile monitoring system which includes a facsimile device and a personal computer connected with the

facsimile device, wherein the personal computer includes monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of the facsimile, as provide by each of independent claims 1-5.

In addition, although Satoh discloses that the facsimile apparatus can automatically send report data to the terminal and a user can select through a user interface provided by the terminal to view the reports generated by the facsimile apparatus, Satoh does not disclose or suggest that prompt notice of a status of the memory transmission is displayed without action by the user to select and retrieve information for display, as provided by claims 1, 2, 6 and 7.

Fujino, as understood by Applicant, relates to a facsimile apparatus which can connect a plurality of lines of data channels. Fujino was cited in the Office Action as disclosing allowing the operator to start and stop transmission which purportedly corresponds to begin and abort or delete a transmission and to enter in the destination number or address, and detect busy lines.

However, a facsimile apparatus according to Fujino or a facsimile machine according to Fukushima inconveniently requires an operator to walk down to the facsimile apparatus each time the operator wishes to operate or check the apparatus. Therefore, Fujino and Fukushima do not add any relevant features to the related art described at pages 1-3 of the application.

In addition, Applicant finds no teaching or suggestion in the cited art, however, that (i) when a memory transmission by the facsimile is completed, a message of a completion thereof is displayed on a displaying panel of the personal computer immediately thereafter (independent claims 1 and 6) or (ii) when there exists a communication

error by the facsimile a message of an alarm is displayed on a displaying panel of the personal computer immediately thereafter (independent claims 2 and 7).

Similarly, Applicant finds no teaching or suggestion in the cited art of a facsimile device monitoring system for monitoring a communication result of a facsimile device from an external terminal, comprising a facsimile device provided with a result sending-out medium sending out a communication result to an external terminal, and an external terminal provided with (i) a display medium displaying and outputting the communication result sent from said facsimile device, and (ii) a result monitoring medium executing an operation of monitoring the communication result from said result sending-out medium of said facsimile device and causing said communication result to be displayed on said display medium of said external terminal immediately thereafter.

Satoh discloses that the user can change preset settings of the facsimile apparatus through the terminal. Figure 7 of Satoh, as discussed by Satoh, at column 7, lines 1-36, merely shows that the user can select from the user interface of the terminal the functionality that is provided through the operation panel of the facsimile apparatus. Although Satoh discloses that error information may be displayed or printed for the user to view, Applicant finds no teaching or suggestion in Satoh, however, that the terminal (or even the facsimile apparatus) is provided with means for the user to process a communication error, such as by deleting a file indicating a communication error, changing an address in the communication error file and/or a transmission property thereof.

However, Applicant simply does not find a teaching or suggestion in Satoh or the cited art that when there exists a file in the facsimile device indicating a communication error, (i) the file of communication error can be deleted using the personal computer (independent claims 3 and 8) or the address of the communication error file and/or a transmission property thereof can be changed from the personal computer (independent claims 4, 5, 9 and 10).

In addition, Satoh requires transmission of operation panel key information from the terminal to the facsimile apparatus and therefore the terminal side is required to have knowledge of the facsimile apparatus including an operation panel specification, operational flow, etc., to enable control of the facsimile apparatus from the terminal. In contrast, the systems and methods of the present application do not require the personal computer side to have such knowledge since the information to be transmitted from the personal computer to the facsimile apparatus is simply commands such as, for example, a command for deleting a file.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1-11, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited references.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an additional extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Teng", is written over a horizontal line.

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